



# Una Voce News Letter

RETIRED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
P.O. BOX 452, ROSEVILLE NSW 2069

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No. 3, 1992 - September

Dear Member,

I suggest that you firm up your arrangements now so as to ensure that you and your ex-PNG friends are able to attend our

## **1992 Christmas Luncheon on Sunday 6 December 1992 at the Mandarin Club corner Pitt & Goulburn Streets Sydney**

The cost is \$20 per head, which has not changed for the past four years, and includes a banquet style meal. A large Council Car Park is only 100 yds away where charges are very reasonable and the Club is not far from Town Hall, Central and Museum Railway Stations.

Full details will be included in the next issue of *Una Voce* which you will receive mid-November.

### **PRESIDENT**

Please note that Harry West became President of your Association on 1 August 1992 and we wish him all the very best during his term of office.

### **VISIT TO BLUE MOUNTAINS**

Because of the cold and dry winter in the mountains spring flowering is a month late so this visit has been deferred until 12 October when Azaleas, Rhododendrons etc. should be in full bloom. On this occasion we will be visiting the Medlow Bath-Blackheath area where the Garden Festival begins two days earlier on 10 October and continues until the following weekend.

There has been a dramatic change in the train timetable to the mountains and the appropriate train now leaves Central at 8.22 a.m. However, because of the extensive repair work being carried out on the mountain line it would be wise to check times again a few days before 12 October.

Those persons interested in the proposed outing please contact Doug Parrish (02.416.8966), Pamela Foley (02.428.2078) or Ken Gorrings (047.57.1488).

#### NEW COMMISSIONER FOR SUPERANNUATION

Mr. Geoff Vanthoff, Commissioner for Superannuation and Chief Executive of the Retirement Benefits Office has retired and the new Commissioner, Mr Ken Searson, has taken up duty. An accountant by profession, Mr. Searson is an old hand in superannuation. For more than twenty years he worked in retirement benefits areas of the Treasury, Department of Finance and the Superannuation Fund Investment Trust (SFIT). For the last two years he headed the SFIT and Commonwealth Funds Management Ltd. He is a member of the NSW Executive of the Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia and also a member of the Federal Council of that Association.

#### MEMBERS GONE MISSING

The June 1992 Newsletters addressed to the following members were returned and it would be appreciated if any member knowing their current whereabouts would either contact the Secretary or ask the missing member to contact him:

Mr. J. Best, 549 Grose Valley Road, KURRAJONG NSW 2758.

Mrs. M. Stewart, PO Box 445, MT ISA QLD 4825.

Mrs. D. J. Savage (Widow of Angus Savage) 42 Collard Street, SLACKS CREEK QLD 4127.

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#### MISSING - FIFTY YEARS AGO

Sydney author F.R. Harvey is endeavouring to establish the fate of his father, Reginald Welsman Harvey, an Englishman, who is presumed to have perished aboard the *M.V. Macdhui*, sunk in Port Moresby in June 1942.

R.W. Harvey was a Relieving Engineer in the Papuan Public Service from 1938-1940, and worked on board the Governor's vessel *Laurabada* for some time on the Fly River. In 1940 he joined the Australian Army, but was discharged in Brisbane due to ill health in May 1942. In a letter around that date, he advised his family that he was joining the *Macdhui* as an Engine Room Artificer. The ship left Townsville on 13 June 1942 and was bombed and sunk in Port Moresby on 18 June 1942.

Reginald Harvey would have been 51 at the time. He was a 'personable', well-spoken Englishman, 5'6", with dark hair, brown eyes and a small scar on the left side of his mouth. His son would be grateful to hear from anyone who might have known him - either in PNG from 1938-40, or in the Army, or anyone who may have been associated with the last voyage of the ill-fated *Macdhui*.

Please write, or phone:

F.R. Harvey  
7/61a Falcon Street  
CROWS NEST NSW 2065  
Tel + Fax (02) 956 8081

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## AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP

### CITIZENSHIP BY DESCENT (Children Born Overseas to Australian Parents)

#### (a) People born before 26 January 1949

The status of 'Australian Citizen' was created on 26 January 1949 when the *Australian Citizenship Act 1948* (the Act) came into force. Special transitional provisions were then introduced which applied to British subjects born before that date.

People born overseas before 26 January 1949 whose father:

(a) was born in Australia or New Guinea; or

(b) was naturalised as a British subject in Australia; and in either case

(c) became an Australian citizen on 26 January 1949

automatically became Australian citizens on the date of their first lawful entry to Australia as a permanent resident (or on 26 January 1949 if they arrived before that date) if they were British subjects on 25 January 1949. If they arrived in Australia on or after 6 May 1966 but before 1 May 1987, there was an additional requirement for them to be British subjects on the date of their arrival.

If you believe you became an Australian citizen in this or any other way, you can apply for a declaratory certificate of Australian citizenship. Application for declaratory certificates are available from any office of the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs or Australian mission overseas. Applications must be accompanied by the appropriate fee. This fee may be refunded only in very limited circumstances. Check your eligibility carefully before lodging your application. If in doubt, contact the nearest office of the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs or Australian mission overseas.

On 18 June 1991, legislation came into effect to enable persons born overseas before 26 January 1949 to apply for registration as an Australian citizen by descent if:

\*their mother was born in Australia or New Guinea, or was naturalised as a British subject in Australia, and, in any case, became an Australian citizen on 26 January 1949;

\*they had entered Australia prior to 1 May 1987; and

\*they are of good character.

Children born to such people may also be included on the application. This provision will exist for a period of five years. The application form shows what documentary evidence must be produced.

If an application is successful the applicant, and any children included, are issued with a declaratory certificate of Australian citizenship.

#### (b) People born on or after 26 January 1949

Persons born overseas to an Australian citizen parent on or after 26 January 1949 have been eligible to apply for registration as an Australian citizen by descent. Those who were registered overseas at an Australian mission or in Australia by the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs became citizens upon registration and would have been issued with an extract from the register as evidence of their Australian citizenship.

Under section 10B of the Act only people under 18 years of age may now be registered as Australian citizens by descent. In addition, a parent who acquired Australian citizenship by descent is not eligible to have his/her

(continued next page)

## AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP (continued)

child under 18 years of age registered as an Australian citizen by descent unless that parent had been legally present in Australia for a total of at least two years before the date of application for registration.

### Who can apply?

- \*Either parent can apply if both parents were Australian citizens at the time of the child's birth.
- \*Where only one parent was an Australian citizen at the time of the child's birth, application may be made by either parent provided that the Australian parent is a responsible parent at the time of application.
- \*If the Australian citizen parent/parents are dead, application can be made by:
  - the other parent or legal guardian; or
  - a person who normally has legal responsibility for the child.

### Evidence normally needed

- \*A full birth certificate showing the full names and details of the person to be registered and of the person's parents.
- \*Evidence of any change of name by the child since birth (deed poll, marriage certificate, etc).
- \*Evidence of the Australian citizenship of a parent at the time of the child's birth. Normally this would be an Australian citizenship certificate, declaratory certificate of Australian citizenship, Australian birth certificate or Australian passport issued on or after 22 November 1984.
- \*Evidence of any change of name by the Australian citizen parent between the date of his/her acquisition of citizenship and the date of birth of the child (deed poll, marriage certificate, etc).
- \*Where the applicant is not a parent, documentary evidence showing that the applicant has legal or other custody of the person to be registered.
- \*A death certificate of the Australian citizen parent and a custody order of a court of law where applicable.

### Evidence of Australian citizenship issued when a person is registered.

An extract from the Register of Citizenship by Descent is issued at the time of registration. Extracts which have been lost may be replaced, upon application and payment of a fee, with a declaratory certificate of Australian citizenship.

Under section 10C of the Act, which came into effect on 15 January 1992, people may apply for registration as an Australian citizen by descent if:

- \*a parent was an Australian citizen at the time of their birth and that parent is still an Australian citizen, or if dead, was an Australian citizen at the time of his/her death;
- \*they were 18 years of age or over on 15 January 1992;
- \*they have an acceptable reason for not being registered as an Australian citizen by descent; and
- \*they are of good character.

An 'acceptable reason' is defined as:

- \*having been issued with an Australian passport; or
- \*being previously unaware of the registration provisions; or
- \*the Minister being satisfied that an application was lodged but registration did not occur.

The application form shows what documentary evidence must be produced.

If the application is successful, the applicant is issued with a declaratory certificate of Australian citizenship.

## HAVE YOU HEARD????

Dr Mike NUNN, formerly head of the Veterinary Services Laboratory set up at Kila Kila and then Director of Agricultural Protection PNG has taken up a senior position with Department of Primary Industries and Energy, Canberra. The work in his new job takes him all over Australia and overseas to Indonesia etc. He said that from a total of seventeen Vets in PNG in the seventies the Department of Agriculture and Livestock ended up with one qualified Vet. The position is much better now with some newly qualified PNG Vets on the job and overseas Vets being recruited on contract. George Malynicz is back in England, where he set up a tourist company with Anna and is now working in a small animal clinic.

Isobel PERT of Noosa Heads Qld recently visited Tasmania for daughter Julie's Graduation at Hobart University. Julie graduated with Honours in Psychology and is now doing her Masters Degree part-time. The weather was great and Isobel had a good look at Tassie whilst she was there.

Ken and Jeanne LAMACRAFT have moved to Nonga Park Riverside Village, which is just off the Gold Coast-Brisbane Highway, at about the half-way point. The suburb of Mt. Warren Park, where the Village is located, is adjacent to Beenleigh, the present end of the railway to Brisbane. Ken and Jeanne, we sincerely hope you quickly settle in and enjoy your new abode.

Molly PARSLow of Mt. Lawley WA had hoped to attend our last Christmas Luncheon but was unable to make it. Molly, we sincerely hope it may be possible for you to get to the next one this December. Best wishes from your friends in the East.

Wal and May FISHWICK of Nerang Qld recently drove to Melbourne and back and enroute visited various people, including the Parrishs and Haines at Lindfield East in Sydney. It was great catching up with Wal again and meeting May.

Ken BROWN of Budgewoi NSW advises that they had their three offspring, their spouses and two grandchildren down recently to spring a surprise party for Rosemary at East Gosford to welcome her into the ranks of the AGING. Rosemary, all our very best wishes on coming of age!

Ralph ALLAN of Cheltenham NSW recently wrote "The latest edition of *Una Voce* was appreciated as my connection with the Territory is through my wife Valerie, whose father and mother were The Rev. Ralph and Mrs. Dawn Grant, whose eldest daughter Rosemary is Ken Brown's (Budgewoi) wife. From this you will appreciate the interest we both have in seeing the "Neptuna" reunion reported in your newsletter. My own involvement in the Territory was during the period 1953-59 working for BPs in Samarai and Rabaul."

Emily CHAMPION of Southport Qld recently advised that she's 82, keeps well and lives in a lovely retirement village. She wrote "Allan and I had five years here so it is full of memories. We had 55 years together, 25 of them in PNG." Emily, all your friends here send you their kindest regards and best wishes.

Ann PEARSALL of Waitara NSW has advised that she has moved into a Retirement Village and Ann, knowing the place you have moved to, I am sure that you will enjoy your new surroundings and not be too far away from all your friends.

HAVE YOU HEARD???? (continued)

Ron HIATT of Port Moresby PNG recently wrote "I am still working with Placer as Manager Corporate Affairs at the Port Moresby office. The Misima and Porgera continue to be successful projects, although we are following closely the statements by the new Prime Minister P. Wingti that production achievements by the Porgera Gold Mine will be under review.

Apart from Porgera and Missima, Placer earlier this year went into partnership with CRA to manage their Hidden Valley (Wau) and Mt. Kare (Enga) gold projects.....

Although we don't meet on a regular basis, the Port Moresby "old kiaps" and associates, who have been in PNG for some years, meet on a social basis to talk over the past, the present and attempt the future of PNG. Your Newsletter assists us to keep up with many who now live in Australia."

Ron, it was great hearing from you and to yourself and all our friends up there the very best wishes from all your friends down here.

Dr. Leslie TOPHAM of York UK recently wrote as follows: "Dell and I are hoping to visit Australia in the near future but will let you know if this transpires. We noted some reference to the cost of Aussie passports in one of your issues. Well our passport renewal cost each of us £38 or Aust \$87 plus expenses of return travel to Manchester.

We are carrying on as usual, doing quite a bit of gardening now in summer and I still do a few consultations weekly in neighbouring towns."

Doctor, all your old colleagues and friends from PNG do hope you will let us know if you are able to pay us a visit as they would like to say "Hello".

Nan BRIGGS of Main Beach Qld recently enjoyed a holiday in Darwin visiting son Ian, wife Leonie and little grandson, Stephen. Ian is a solicitor and a partner in the legal firm Phillip and Mitavos. Nan, we hope you had a wonderful holiday and were able to meet some of the many ex-PNG folk who now reside there.

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REUNION - "NEW GUINEA PATROL" FILM  
The Palms Motor Inn, Gosford, NSW  
by Albert Speer

On Sunday 16th August 1992 a very pleasant reunion was hosted by John and Marian Leake at their Motel at Gosford for the personnel involved in the making of the film "New Guinea Patrol". It was in 1957 that the 70 day patrol was undertaken and it was a great achievement to bring together again the camera crew and participants. The guests assembled on Sunday and enjoyed a wonderful dinner and a screening of the film, which of course led to many happy recalls and stories lasting well into the evening a - good night's sleep, pleasant breakfast, and then farewells on Monday.

Those present were:- Ron Maslyn Williams, Producer and Author; Peter Diamond, Director; John Leake, Cameraman (Host); James P. Sinclair, Patrol Leader, DUNA; Neil J. Grant, Patrol Officer, DUNA; Albert Speer, Medical Assistant, DUNA; Robert R. Cole, District Commissioner, MENDI; Robert Browne, Patrol Officer, TARI.

Mr. M. Mopia of the PNG Consular Staff, Sydney, and Beverly Hall, Glynnis Jolly, Jan Sinclair, Christina Grant, Rebecca Grant, Doreen Browne, Samantha Browne, Mr. E.G. Ramsay and Mr M.C. Biscocho of Air Niugini, Sydney, also attended. A wonderful experience and our thanks to John for arranging it so well.



## NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS

GEOFF MASTERS (Bribie Island)

On July 15 I received a phone call from Dept of Defence that my travel to Mile Bay was approved on C130 (Hercules) and I departed on 16 July for Milne Bay accompanied by a team of 7 army personnel who were to install the Bofors gun on the airstrip as a 50th anniversary gift to the people of Milne Bay. We arrived at Port Moresby at 1 p.m. with the plane heavily loaded with troops, our Bofors gun which weighed 1 ton, plus other cargo for the Australian High Commission.

The Australian government has constructed a new terminal area opposite the present international terminal and this is used by the PNG Defence Forces as well as official C130 flights. After unloading POM cargo we loaded the 1942 war ordnance. Off the ground at 2.30 and arrived at Gurney 3.30 - unloading took around half an hour and the C130 went off on its usual run to Nadzab, Madang and the Highlands.

Our group spent the rest of the afternoon settling into a house that was provided by Oil Palm Co. and was situated on a ledge overlooking Gili Gili and top end of airstrip.

The Provincial Government made available to me a car and driver and next morning we set about obtaining all the tools we needed to install the Bofors, and thank goodness for good friends in far away places, i.e. the Catholic Mission, who loaned us what was needed.

Whilst the Army were installing the gun I was busy talking with Provincial Government officials about more memorials - Alotau will shortly be called the memorial town of PNG.

The Australian Government in conjunction with Island Fishing and Trading are having a 1m x 1m plaque made depicting the battle of Milne Bay and it is being made by Dr Ross Bastiaan, a Melbourne dentist. I was asked that it be placed in a suitable site where everyone could see it, so arranged with town council to have it placed in the main street between the P.O. and Westpac Bank at the top of town. The plaque will go up with 35 veterans who will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the battle on Sept 10th-14th.

The main street of Alotau is to be extended to the waterfront where a scaled down version of the Coastwatchers Memorial is to be constructed and Bill Warren an ex Milne Bay P.O. has this in hand. The Provincial Government have asked that a plaque be made to go on this memorial with the names of all those killed during the battle and I have undertaken to coordinate this.

Above the Turnbull crash site the town council has constructed a lookout and are keen to see the wing of Turnbull's aircraft mounted here with a flashing white light on top (flashing to sea) and a flood light to light the wing up at night. Once again I have undertaken to have this work done and an approach to RAAF has been made to have the wing picked up, taken to Richmond, repaired and returned.

The area in front of Sandersons Bay is to be revamped, a playground constructed, some kiosks installed for the people to use and it will be known as Turnbull place. The town has grown to the extent that no more land is available and it now boasts a newspaper, "The Eastern Star", Editor Ian Fry, ex Leader Newspapers Melbourne. The paper has had a ball in recent times with the arrival of tourist ships, interviewing veterans and producing stories of the war of 50 years ago.

News from the town for those ex Mile Bayans: Peni Frank passed away suddenly a couple of weeks ago, Peni was a long time councillor. Vernon Guise passed away some months ago, Vernon ran a plantation on the other side of

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## NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS (continued)

Milne Bay and was John's brother. Vernon's daughter, Beryl, is the town chemist, yes, they even have a chemist shop.

Andrew Chan one of the early residents of the town has returned and is involved in the timber business along with Phil Roberts, who would be remembered as PWD Works Officer.

A quick look around told me that there had to be big money in the collection of aluminium cans for they are there in their millions and this was only one town - with the right type of boat sailing town to town and back to Australia, sell the empty cans and load up with full ones and you have an on-going business with a good life style - pity of it is I'm not a sailor.

RAAF came back to Gurney and picked us up Monday afternoon and flew us back to Richmond.

DOUG FRANKLIN (Brisbane)

## P.N.G. NEWS

### National Elections

The 1992 National Elections were held when due and proved to be a great tribute to all who took part - electors, officials and the record number of candidates. The result was close and it demonstrated to the world that the Westminster system is continuing to operate successfully and peacefully in Papua New Guinea. All former PNG Government Officers, especially those who helped with earlier elections, congratulate the political leaders on showing how it can and should be done.

There are a great number of eminent names in the Hon. Prime Minister Wingti's Cabinet. Many are senior politicians with considerable years of Ministerial experience. But there are also some new faces. Mention must be made of the Hon. Tim Neville M.P. who won the Milne Bay Provincial Seat. One of the sons of the illustrious R.T.D. (Ron) Neville, former M.P. for Southern Highlands, young Tim stood against some notable candidates including Dennis Young, Jacob Lemeki and Josephine Abaijah. Hon. Tim Neville has been made Minister for Forests in the new Cabinet.

### 50th Anniversary of M.V. Macdhui Sinking

A commemorative supplement to the Post Courier was issued on 18 June 1992 to mark the 50th anniversary of the sinking of this ship in Port Moresby in 1942. At the time there were 154 passengers and 77 crew aboard. Thirteen were killed and ten injured. Macdhui was the flagship of the Burns Philp fleet at the time and represented the last word of comfort. Built on the Clyde in Scotland, she was designed for the "island trade". The hull of the ship still lies above the low water mark off Hanuabada and her mast stands proudly outside the Royal Papua Yacht Club where it is in use to this day.

### Agricultural Education and Training

Popondetta now remains the only Department of Agriculture & Livestock pre service Agricultural College. Sepik Agricultural College was closed in 1990; Vudal Agricultural College has been taken over by the University of Technology, Lae, and Mt. Hagen Agricultural College remains for agricultural in-service training. Funding for the colleges had become a major problem. The latest news from Popondetta is that it has been fortunate to secure a K200,000 allocation from the E.E.C. through the Commission for Higher Education. Major maintenance programs are currently under way at P.A.C. (formerly PATI). Student dormitories, classrooms and staff housing are all being done up.

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NEWS FROM CORRESPONDENTS (continued)

Upgrading of N.B.C.

A two year major upgrading and maintenance program for the National Broadcasting Commission, funded by AIDAB, was completed in June 1992. Malcolm Long, Assistant General Manager with the A.B.C. reported in the Radio Australia "Communicator" program that many of the N.B.C. Karai, Kundu or Kalang transmitters and equipment installed in the seventies had been overtaken by time. The A.B.C. had updated, replaced or repaired much equipment during its two year assistance package. Mr Lang had reported the closest good relations between the A.B.C. and N.B.C., headed by Sir Alkan Tolo. (Origin - Radio Australia news item 6th July 1992).

New Postage Stamp

A fine new P.N.G. 45t postage stamp has been issued. It depicts an Australian Infantryman in jungle green, holding a Lee Enfield .303 rifle, and titled Australian Militia - World War Two Campaign. 50 years 1992.

JIM TONER (Northern Territory)

"Kiap" - Jim Sinclair's eulogy to PNG Patrol Officers - now has a cousin on the bookstands. "The Go-Betweens", a history of Patrol Officers in NT Aboriginal Administration, has been written by Jeremy Long who spent a year at ASOPA in 1956. To that time there had been a mere 20 POs on strength in the NT but thereafter 90 men trained at Middle Head in company with the PNG officers until 1974. Long went from Cadet, Alice Springs, to Deputy Secretary Dept of Aboriginal Affairs, Canberra, and has written most interestingly of the problems of a handful of white men charged with administering primitive people.

One of those palefaces was Bob Welsh who has the unique distinction of changing territories in mid-stream. He went to ASOPA as a NT Cadet in 1965 and later became responsible for taking 40 Aborigines from Hermannsburg, Central Australia (where Long reports there had been "heavy drinking and fighting") to Shepparton, Victoria to pick fruit. By 1968 he was a PO in the West Sepik where things were presumably less stressful.

Bob returned to the NT in 1975 as a civilian but was back in PNG in the Courts Secretariat two years later. After five years at Mt. Hagen, he moved to the National Intelligence Office in Moresby, again returning to Darwin in 1987. Naturally he is familiar with Ron Hiatt, Chris Warrillow (who has not gone South as earlier reported), Vin Smith and all those who "stayed on".

Additionally Bob is not short of wantoks amongst staff of his present employer, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission. Former PNG officers Steve White and Greg Smith who were at Gove have now moved to Mt. Isa and Townsville respectively. This leaves Ray Lanahan at Umbakumba, Tony Madden at Katherine and Dick Allmark at Alice Springs.

The NT News in one of those "20 years ago today" columns recalled a case heard at Alice Springs before Mr Godfrey (Bob) Hall, now deceased, who was the magistrate at Rabaul in the early sixties. In 1972 a score of Aborigines accused of stoning two policemen and their families and of throwing spears through windows of a police house were charged with "riotous behaviour". Mr Hall saw fit to disqualify himself from the bench after telling a constable giving evidence: "You should have let them have both barrels".

It does seem to me, reading the news from PNG, that while the "both barrels" approach was unthinkable there prior to September 1975, the current government might find adoption of that policy - on occasion - an inducement to Law and Order, a concept largely honoured in the breach these days.

## PROTECTING YOUR RECORDS FOR POSTERITY

The executive of your Association strongly recommends that you take advantage, while it is available, of the generous offer made in our last issue by Dr. Peter Cahill<sup>(1)</sup> to:-

A. Create a computer data base of as much archival material, held by ex-residents of Papua New Guinea, by subject, and by the location of where this material is held, for which he is able to obtain information.

B. Arrange appropriate permanent archival storage of all material given into his care and to properly sort and catalogue it so that it is readily available to researchers and others who may be interested including descendants. If requested, materials so sent to Peter, will be returned by certified and registered mail.

C. If necessary Peter will photocopy and return pictures and other material that the owner may be unwilling, at present, to part with.

To begin, Peter is prepared to bear the expense of photocopying and return postage. Should there be a large response to this program, which it is hoped that there will be, the Association plans to make funds available for this most important purpose.

Peter, talking of people who are currently reluctant to part with their records writes:- "But the point they seem to miss is the importance of making sure that what they have is (a) recorded and (b) identified. Pieces of paper and old photographs don't mean much when estates are being finalised if they haven't been identified, and if their worth isn't realised by the generation sorting them".

Members could consider putting an instruction in their wills that their valuable papers and photographs be handed to the Association through this scheme for archival classification and storage.

If you are not yet ready to part with your precious records and pictures, write to Peter and tell him what important material you do have and its present location so he may be able, at least, to put it in the data base, and then give him some idea of your intention about the future archival care of your contribution to the historical record.

(1) Refer "Archiving PNG Memorabilia" page 10 June 1992 issue.)

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### HELP WANTED

I would love to have any news, however vague, about some pre-war Rabaul-ites as follows:

In Rabaul, in March 1934, (Marc) Marcel Henri Pinguet married Mrs. (Jay) Joan Ollerton, nee Montgomery. Marc was then at Wangaramut and later the Pingquets lived at Manus and New Ireland. 'Jay' had a daughter from her previous marriage, called Yvonne Joan Montgomery Ollerton, who was usually called 'Monty'. She was born about 1921.

Jan and Marc had their own wee daughter in February 1936 and called her Jennifer. Marc sadly died one year later, in Rabaul, aged only 40. Jay is believed to have stayed on in Rabaul for a while after Marc's death.

If anyone has news of Jay or her daughters since 1937 I'd be most grateful to hear from them.

Mrs. Pat Boys  
9 Holt Av.,  
Torbay, AUCKLAND 10, N.Z.

## KIETA, BOUGAINVILLE - 1926

The following are some notes from Jack Goad of Griffin Qld which he sent me some time ago and I have been very remiss in leaving it until now to record them.

"I recall, as a youngster in Kieta, P.O. Sanson coming in with a spear in his ankle and later Ward, the A.D.O. Buin, also came to Kieta with a spear wound. They had to stay at our home because there was no European Hospital in those days.

My Dad took over from Robinson as the Medical Assistant and Robinson transferred to District Services, later becoming well known as "Sepik Wobbie". Cilento, later Sir Raphael, was Director of Health, but I did not know him; I did, however, know his successor, Dr. Tom Brennan.

During 1926 the people on the island of Pok Pok (on the seaward side of Kieta Harbour) began to fight amongst themselves - the drums thumped out for over a week and the sound from them and the glow from the fires on the shores of the island could be heard and seen from Kieta.

The population of the town at the time was:

District Officer:	Mr. Tom McAdam with wife and daughters Molly <sup>1</sup> and Frances who now reside in W.A.
Asst. District Officer:	Mr. Gerry MacDonald with wife and son Gerald.
Chief Clerk:	Mr. H. Allday with wife and two daughters, Nancy and sister.
Clerk:	Mr. Bennett with wife who later became better known as "Tiger Lil".
Policemaster:	Mr. Brodie with wife and children Joan, Ken and Margery.
Medical Officer:	Dr. Jackson with wife, son and daughter.
Medical Assistant:	Mr. Goad with wife and sons John (Jack), Bruce (murdered 1939 in Kavieng) and Malcolm. (Dad lost his life on the Montevideo Maru and Mother died in Adelaide.)
Storekeeper/Planter:	Mr. Tom Ebory.
AWA Wireless Operator:	Mr. Frank Tracey.

General Wisdom was the Administrator of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea at the time and I met him when he did a tour of inspection in the Administrator's yacht, the Franklin, a steam yacht very much like the Captain Cook Pilot Ship that operated in Sydney Harbour for many years.

There were Europeans on the plantations of course and on the Numa Numa schooner was a Japanese named Tosh who, it is said, assisted to bring the Japanese fleet to Rabaul. Tosh used to make up the tennis teams when his schooner was visiting Kieta from Numa Numa Plantation and, as I recall it, he was pretty good. Jack Read, Coastwatcher, in his report on coast-watching activities Bougainville 1941-43, believed that Tosh was a Trader and he states that Tosh took up duties in charge of Kieta for a time on behalf of the Japs. I believe that Tosh's parents came to New Guinea in an administrative capacity in German times."

I joined the Customs Department one month before the Japanese landed and retired from that Department in 1973.

(<sup>1</sup>Molly McAdam now is Mrs. M. Parslow of Mt. Lawley W.A. who is also a member of the Association.)

## PNG WARTIME MEMORIES

by Olga Blood

Just to set the record straight and referring to item by Doug Franklin (Brisbane), in No. 2 June 1992 issue of *Una Voce*, concerning Ian Wood as a Catalina pilot in the Sepik District in 1941 landing MOSS troops. First of all, the nickname of my late husband was not "Nip", but "Nep", short for Neptune, and at the time Wood took him into the Chambri Lakes he was already a member of the Military Forces, but pre-war had been a Warrant Officer with the New Guinea Constabulary.

On or about 15th August, 1941, my husband and two Australian Lieuts., Tame and Barnes, together with approx 12 native policemen, were waiting to link up with James Lindsay Taylor's party when they were "jumped" by the Japs. It is understood they swapped fire for some time, but were outnumbered by more than 20 to one, and so deciding caution was the better part of valour, they decamped out the back door, which happened to be an almost impenetrable swamp.

None of the party were captured by the Japs, they all managed to escape in only what they stood up in, no food, no blankets and no medicine, and as Neptune had slippers on after a shower at the time of the attack, he lost those early in the piece sucked off by the mud and slime of the swamp!

The party walked from where they were attacked, through a lot of limestone country without human habitation of any kind, managed to survive and eventually reach Wabag. Two of the native policemen died en route, one swept away by a torrent whilst crossing a river, and the other from causes I can't remember. Both of the Australian Lieuts. lost their eyesight temporarily and had to be led, but Neptune ate the tiny new embryo fern fronds, which he later credited for him keeping his eyesight. Normally he weighed over 12 stone, but after being weighed at the conclusion of the trek, he just hit 8 stone.

I have tried unsuccessfully to obtain a copy of the Report he submitted for this historic walk, from the Dept. of the Army, but so far without success - maybe you could do something in this regard for me - I would like his children and grandchildren to have a copy.

On a lighter note - the handful of Australians led by James Lindsay Taylor at the head of one of the parties, who were "Jap" hopping in and around the Sepik area at that particular period of the war, were dependant on air "drops" from Moresby for essentials of food, fuel and medicines - the fuel was for the small pinnacle they were using and for the small engine to charge the batteries for their wireless transmissions being relayed to Moresby "shadowing" Jap movements, strengths etc.

However, they received mighty little of anything, and had to rely on their own initiatives to keep alive and ahead of the Japs - like boiling sea-water in 44 gal. drums at a high heat to obtain a little salt, and doing a variety of things with sugar cane to get a little sweetener. For a long frustrating time Taylor kept radioing Moresby for fuel and food without success - they needed the fuel badly to keep up radio transmission.

Eventually, a radio arrived from General Morris, asking them to "keep faith we are doing our best"! and then I think one of the Classics to come out of the New Guinea campaign was sent in a message by the dying radio by Jim Taylor addressed to the General, which read "No food, no fuel and bloody little faith". A few days later they got a drop.

I understand that later at another location Lieut. Barnes was caught and killed by the Japs, but I think Lieut. Stan Tame survived.

(Olga, we are going to see if we can obtain a copy of Nep's Report and in due course we will let you know if we are successful. Ed.)

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## MONTEVIDEO MARU MEMORIAL SERVICE - RABAU

by Diana Martell (nee Cooté)

The visit to Rabaul with the 2/22 Battalion Association was such a success that it is hard to put it into words. This was due partly to the organisational skill of Bill Harry of 2/22 Association, and of Wally Lussick, Des Lennon and others of the RSL in PNG, and partly to the general enthusiasm of the people in the group.

As well as those who were ex 2/22 Battalion and ex 1st Independent Company (New Ireland) and ex Fortress Engineers, the group included 2 ex Army nurses who spent three years as POWs in Japan, Sister Berenice ex Vunapope Mission, who spent the war years there and who helped mind the nurses there before they were sent away, Kemp Howlett who was one of the Wirraway pilots, Monsignor Frank Lyons ex RAN Chaplain, whose brother was killed at Tol Plantation, Alan Vagg ex NGVR and AWA, our tireless photographer Ken MacGowan, ex PNGVR, whose father Bill MacGowan of Public Works Dept escaped from Rabaul, and seven people whose fathers were lost on the Montevideo Maru. Ken MacGowan's sister Muriel Larner, who now lives in Kainantu, joined us in Rabaul. The seven whose fathers were on the Montevideo Maru were Jack Goad, ex PNGVR (son of Jack Goad of the Public Health Dept, Kavieng); Beatrice Knight (daughter of Dick Forsyth of Peardon's Garage, Rabaul); Diana Martell (daughter of Philip Cooté of Burns Philp, Rabaul); Dr John Spenseley and his sister, Gillian Johnson (children of Bill Spenseley of Colyer Watsons, Rabaul); Julia Richardson (daughter of Walter Ryan of Burns Philp, Rabaul); and Betty Wood (daughter of Harry Holland of OTC Kavieng and Rabaul).

The flight on the Hercules was interesting and quite an adventure. The first night was spent at Smuggler's Inn, Madang, and next morning we took an Air Niugini flight via Manus and Kavieng to Rabaul. The excitement mounted as we approached Rabaul and the beautiful harbour and the familiar volcanoes came into view. Rabaul airport seemed just the same, and it was hard not to search the waiting crowd for the smiling faces which would have been there in years long gone. When we stepped into the bright sunshine and took our first breaths of Rabaul's very own brand of air, we were greeted with music from the Police Band, supervised by Erimus who was in the Band before the war. The ladies in the group were presented with leis of frangipanni flowers by courtesy of Melli Paivu Tours, and welcomed by Lorraine Lane, daughter of Don and Margot Briggs, and Helen Farr, daughter of the late Ben and Isobel White, and sisters from Vunapope Mission. The welcoming party from the RSL consisted of Harry and Barbara Croydon, Matt Foley, Wally Lussick, Des Lennon and Jan Shilliken, and there was much handshaking and good cheer.

When we had all regained our composure after the wonderful welcome, we went by bus to the Travelodge Hotel where there was much cheerful chatter as we stood around the pool quenching our thirst with fresh kulaus, each of which had a red hibiscus and a straw. We found the Travelodge very pleasant indeed, and having breakfast on the patio while we looked at the harbour in the cool time of a tropical day started us all off in a happy frame of mind.

After lunch that first day some of us went on a bus trip which included Matupit Island and the lookout at Malmaluan. In the evening there was a "Beat the Retreat" ceremony expertly conducted by the Police Band at the Cenotaph, after which there was a reception at Anzac House where we were made welcome by Harry Croydon the League President, Changoi Manuai the Club president, Jan Shilliken the Club Manager, Mat Foley and many local members of the Club which seems to be a popular meeting place.

On the morning of 17th June we gathered on the waterfront at the little cairn in memory of those lost on the Montevideo Maru. Addresses were given by Rev. John May of 2/22 Battalion, Father Noel Mansfield, MSC, and Dr John

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MONTEVIDEO MARU MEMORIAL SERVICE -RABAU (continued)

Spensely. Bishop To Kilala said a prayer. Wreaths provided by the Girl Guides were laid, and two buglers played the Last Post and Reveille. It was an emotional occasion and a brilliant day - every colour seemed to be extra bright. Rabaul Harbour looked so beautiful, so calm, with various small craft lying at anchor, and the hills and Vulcan over the other side were blue and dreaming. After the ceremony we walked to the New Guinea Club for lunch and were delighted to find it looking just the same - even the same photographs on the walls. Then we went into Admiral Yamamoto's bunker which has been turned into a small museum.

Later that afternoon we went to the war museum at Kokopo and had drinks at the Ralum Club in the evening. After that we went to a reception at the Kokopo home of Sinai Brown, the Premier of the East New Britain Province, and met several of the provincial ministers. A very colourful feast was laid out and instead of plates we used large shiny leaves. It was a very enjoyable evening.

On Thursday 18th June we all went to Bita Paka War Cemetery, which was looking absolutely superb. The raintrees outside the entrance are magnificent now and cover a huge area with their greenish shade. Inside the cemetery there was such a feeling of peace and beauty - frangipanni trees covered with flowers casting a light shade in some places, banks of brilliant red and yellow crotons and other coloured leaves, and the quiet lanes of the headstones. We wandered around then gathered under the raintrees and watched the Police Band march up. Amongst the band were some bandmen, very grey haired now, who had been trained by Mr Crawley before the war. Monsignor Lyons gave an address, as did Matt Foley, then we all moved into the cemetery where there was a short service by the big white cross and a hymn. Wreaths were laid - they looked so brilliant against the white base of the cross, and once again buglers played the Last Post and Reveille.

After a quick lunch at Vunapope Bill Harry and some others went to Tol Plantation on a plane piloted by young Rod Marsland, whose father Rod had a plantation near Talasea at one time. The rest of us had a more leisurely time at Vunapope. The bus was greeted by schoolgirls dressed in green skirts and yellow blouses, who sang a welcoming song. Then after a lunch of sandwiches and fruit with the sisters, each of us was taken by two or three Grade 10 girls to a shady spot under trees where we were asked to speak to them in English. Then we all went to a large hall where the girls sat on the floor facing us while we sat on chairs. A nun then asked us to volunteer to rise and tell the whole audience about ourselves. Several brave souls did volunteer, then the girls sang a farewell song and escorted us out to the bus where there was much laughter and good cheer till we left. We were all moved by the experience and felt grateful to have had it. That evening we were guests at a dinner party given by the Prime Minister, Rabbie Namaliu, at the Hamamas Hotel in Rabaul.

We were to have left early on the morning of 19th June but there was a delay until midday which gave Jack Goad time to organise a friend to take him, Beatrice, Julia and myself for a drive to Kulau Lodge and the Tavui Point where my family and I lived before the war. It became known later as the Submarine Base. It is very bushy out there and you would never know that our house, which was the first house bombed in Rabaul, or all the activity of the Submarine Base had ever existed. Our driver told us he has seen duk duks on several occasions along that road.

And so our visit ended. What a wonderful few days!

Overall impressions of Rabaul were that it needs some attention. Some of the blocks of flats appeared to be in danger of falling down and in some places the houses and gardens looked a little sad, but somehow the place still

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MONTEVIDEO MARU MEMORIAL SERVICE - RABAU (continued)

has a great deal of charm and we received lots of smiles from the inhabitants. The plantations that we saw looked neglected, reflecting the low prices for copra and cocoa. There was evidence of more prosperity in the villages, which look bigger with hardly a bush material house to be seen, and some of the houses quite large. It is still a beautiful place. I hope those volcanoes just protect it and never destroy it!

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**50th ANNIVERSARY VISIT TO RABAU**

A party of 34 organised by the 2/22nd Battalion Lark Force Association led by member C.O. (Bill) Harry, Hon State Treasurer Victorian Branch RSL, spent four days in and around Rabaul from 16th-19th June 1992.

The party included former members of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles, Coastwatchers, 1st Independent Company, two former Army Nurses who were captured in Rabaul in 1942 and Kemp Hewett, a former Wirraway pilot who was shot down, miraculously survived though wounded and evacuated before the Japanese landing.

The Japanese invaded Rabaul on 23rd January 1942 and many survivors of that action were shipped out of Rabaul on the unmarked Japanese prison ship the "Montevideo Maru" late in June 1942. This vessel was torpedoed by an Allied submarine on 1st July 1942 and the total of 1035 NCO's, other ranks and civilians did not survive. The only reported survivors were 17 Japanese boatscrew and 3 guards.

The officers and civilian and army nurses departed Rabaul on a Japanese vessel the "Naruto Maru", some 10 days later and got through to Japan.

The Rabaul RSL was prominent in arranging the programme for the visiting party. The local Police Band played them in on the tarmac and stayed with them for all ceremonial events.

The programme included a ceremony at the "Montevideo Maru" memorial stone at the Rabaul Harbour foreshore and the address was given by Padre (Canon) John May.

The ceremony at the Bitapaka War Cemetery was conducted in magnificent surroundings and the address was given by Monsignor Frank Lyons AM, the former Senior RAN Catholic Chaplain whose brother was a victim of the Tol Plantation massacre when 160 Lark Force troops were captured on 4th February 1942 and bayoneted and shot.

Later in the day a number of the party were flown down to the airstrip at Tol Plantation to visit the scene where a small memorial has been erected.

The Rabaul community were extremely supportive and the East New Britain Provincial Premier, Mr Sinei Brown, entertained them to a large outdoor dinner party in the extensive gardens of his residence at Kokopo.

The culmination of the visit was a dinner in their honour on the final night by Prime Minister Rabbie Namiliu at the Hamamas Hotel, attended by 180 guests.

(The above account was kindly provided by C. O. (Bill) Harry. Ed.)

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## JACK READ - COASTWATCHER

by James Griffin

At dawn, 50 years ago today, Jack Read surveyed the Japanese occupying force in Buka Passage from his observation post and gave orders to his men to strike camp for a more secure eyrie in the mountains of North Bougainville. Read did not know that the day before, the Americans had counter-attacked for the first time in the war. They were about to capture the former British administration headquarters at Tulagi in the Solomon Islands and had landed 11,000 marines at Guadalcanal.

Read was unaware also that his fellow coastwatcher, Paul Mason, 120 kilometres south, had that day observed 27 Japanese bombers flying to the battle from his post on a hill near Buin, in south Bougainville, and, thanks to his timely signal, that the Americans had been forewarned and only a fraction of the enemy aircraft had returned.

Around 7.30 am, Read lined his carriers but, before dismantling his teleradio, he decided to tune in to his usual early morning schedule in case something was happening. Aimlessly, he twiddled the dial to the seven megacycles frequency and heard American accents indicating that the action for which he had kept silent for months was now happening. Communications between aircraft carrier and its planes told of the fall of Tulagi.

Read was absorbing this and had packed his gear when, at 8.20, his alert police sergeant, Yauwiga, heard a dull roar of engines. Firstly, 27 torpedo bombers raced over the break in the trees followed soon after by another 18 only 500 feet above him. The wireless was broken out again and after some fumbling and cursing, Read, at 8.40, tried to signal Port Moresby. He had to use voice because his Morse operator had gone. With his transmitter putting out maximum signal, he did not raise even static.

Exasperated, he tried a general attention call to anyone on X-frequency. Another coastwatcher in eastern New Guinea picked it up. It was a model of succinctness: FROM JER: 45 BOMBER HEADING YOURS. It was relayed to Port Moresby to Townsville to Canberra to Pearl Harbour and back to Guadalcanal by 9.10. This gave ample time for ships to arm the guns and manoeuvre in the Solomons slot, even for an early lunch, and for the heavy-plated Grumman fighters, less agile than Japanese Zeros, to stack up at the highest possible altitude and, when needed, to pounce.

Read stayed tuned. His men cheered as they heard 'Orange Base' instruct pilots to refuel for "an expected bomber attack on the transport area". Then, two hours later, came a jubilant, blow-by-blow description of the air-naval battle culminating in: "Boys, they're shooting them down like flies, I can see one, two, three, four, six -- eight, of them all coming down into the sea together".

The battle was over in 10 minutes. The Americans lost a destroyer and a transport. Only eight Japanese planes passed over Read on the way back to base. Read later wrote modestly in his splendid debriefing report of some 140 single-space foolscap pages, the best of the coastwatcher's writing: "Although at that time, I was on the easy end of the line, I felt that I had played some part, however minor, in the successful repulse of that attack."

In fact, Read and Mason continued their reporting until Guadalcanal was secure in November. In later presenting them with the American Distinguished Service Cross, Admiral "Bull" Halsey said categorically that the intelligence signalled from Bougainville had saved Guadalcanal and that Guadalcanal had saved the South Pacific.

Yet Read was never honoured by his own country, although he was "mentioned in dispatches" later in the war. Mason was at least honoured by Whitehall with a DSC but with the fatuous citation: "For good work in the Far East".

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JACK READ - COASTWATCHER (*continued*)

Two days before he died, aged 87, on 29 June this year at Ballarat, Read, a sardonic but not a bitter man, could still laugh at the "bum-polishers" at Naval headquarters who were so grudging to "irregulars".

Read's exploits have been over-shadowed by the temerarious Mason, who relished his loner's role and was eventually pursued throughout the island by Japanese and the local warriors who supported them.

A Tasmanian with a background in journalism, Read had taken a cadetship in the New Guinea field service in 1929 at the age of 24. As a *kia*p, he was noted for his hardiness, ability to get on with villagers and a thoroughness in desk work which was almost pedantic.

Unlike Mason, a planter, who had walked through Bougainville since 1924, Read hardly knew the place and had been posted to Buka Island as an Assistant District Officer only in November 1941, a few weeks before Pearl Harbour. He had tried to enlist in the AIF but had been told by his superiors that he would not be re-employed if he did so, and would forfeit superannuation entitlements.

Before the Japanese took control of Buka Passage in March 1942, Read had prepared to evacuate to Australia. In February, he was asked by radio by Lieutenant Commander Eric Feldt, who had set up the coastwatching service, to stay on. After the Japanese began to occupy Bougainville and concentrate naval forces in Buka Passage and the Shortland Islands as part of their Solomons campaign, the two coastwatchers were ordered to consolidate their posts and keep silent until needed.

The Japanese, however, knew that Read and particularly Mason were there. So why did they not link them sooner to the disasters at Guadalcanal or, if they did, why did they not try to root them out until the end of 1942, when it was too late?

One explanation is that there was a lack of coordination between the branches of the Japanese services so they did not deduce that the Americans were always forewarned of their intentions. There was also the doubt as to how many troops the Australians had inland. One coastwatcher, who admired Japanese courage in set-piece battles, also maintained that their troops were often terrified of moving in the bush except in large numbers. But there is also the intriguing fact that a Japanese named Tashiro, who had lived in Bougainville from 1929 till March 1941, had been sent back to Kieta as political officer.

Tashiro, who was a Christian, had migrated to Rabaul in 1917 at the age of 16 to trade in copra and engage in coastal transport. One Bougainville, he had been a popular trochus sheller and trader. He had also been a friend of Mason's. Read, who took a down-to-earth view of his own plight, always maintained that Tashiro could have caught them if he had really wanted to, because he had the trust of many Bougainvilleans. "A bloody good Jap in my book", said Read.

By December, however, the Japanese were aware that coastwatchers on Bougainville might hold a key to their reverses further south-east. Feldt also realised the danger. Tashiro was ordered to pursue Mason and his party.

On 21 December, Mason was ordered out of Buin and was soon pursued by a force of 40 troops and some 60 locals known as the 'Black Dogs'. They had been recruited from the Kieta area and given to understand that, if the Australians returned, they would be severely punished for their looting and disloyalty. Only intrepidity saved Mason, who signalled his plight to Townsville. He was told on 12 January to go north to Read.

After an arduous trek through the mountains, Mason reached Read's hideout on 28 January. They had met only briefly 12 months before. In their respective reports, they pay tribute to each other. Mason arrived, wrote

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## JACK READ - COASTWATCHER (continued)

Read, "only in what he stood up in - shorts and singlet - and with haversack and revolver at belt - and barefooted" - and with septic wounds.

He was impressed by Read's austerity: "A couple of thatched lean-to shelters; bedding down was a litter of sticks raised a few inches clear of the damp ground, and somewhat softened by layers of leaves; the bare furnishings of table and seating similarly improvised from bush material:.. Mason wrote: "I now realised the greatness of his achievement not only as a coastwatcher but as a public official and district officer".

By then, Read had already organised the first evacuation of 29 civilians by American submarine. By February 1943, the Japanese had been driven from Guadalcanal but this meant only more vigorous operations in the northern Solomons. The die was now cast against the coastwatchers and their supporting troops.

Read organised further evacuations in March and April. He and Mason refused to be repatriated themselves until there were sure that their own scouts were looked after. By July 1943 their position was untenable. Read's hideaway was destroyed by Japanese. It would have been suicide to stay.

A rendezvous was organised with *SS Guardfish* on 24 July, which Read pretended he could not meet. It took Mason off and as many as could be fitted in. But no provision had been made in Australia for Sergeant Yauwiga and his men without whom, said Read, they could not have survived. "There was no way I was going to leave without them," he said. So *Guardfish* had to return, four days later. Now there was space for Yauwiga, eight other "native" police, nine "loyal native" civilians, two Fijians plus Read and another European officer.

Read went on to become a major in the Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit, ANGAU. Post-war, he was appointed District Commissioner and later, until Independence in 1975, a Commissioner for Land Titles.

I saw Jack Read two days before he died in Ballarat. He was bedridden and tired; "ready to go", he said. He shrugged off the idea that his own country might, even at this late stage, honour his wartime achievements.

(From "The Age", 8 August 1992, James Griffin is Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Papua New Guinea. Ed.)

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## KOKODA MEMORIAL UNVEILED

More than 200 people, including 70 soldiers from the 3rd Battalion (1939-1945), took part in an emotional ceremony at East Jindabyne in early November last year as a Memorial to those who fought during the Kokoda Trail campaign in Papua New Guinea during the second world war was unveiled.

The occasion commemorated the battalion's raising of an Australian flag at Kokoda on November 2, 1942, heralding the end of fierce and bloody fighting which claimed many lives.

The two metre high boulder, crowned by a bronzed slouch hat, which now stands in the park at East Jindabyne is Australia's only statue of remembrance dedicated to the fighting at Kokoda. A site exists at Templeton's Crossing in New Guinea where this year's 50th anniversary of the campaign took place.

Soldiers were recruited from around the Monaro, South Coast, Wollongong, Bathurst, Queanbeyan and Goulburn during the war to form the 3rd Battalion.

It is hoped that the shire will name the park Kokoda Park, and it will become an interest stop for visitors to the area. It is planned for a memorial service to take place at the park every year on November 2.

## BOOK & VIDEO NEWS

### "BLACK HARVEST" - A film by Bob Connolly and Robin Anderson

"*Black Harvest*" is a real live drama about two ambitious men vying for power, of two cultures racing towards head-on collision and of a dream that turns sour. Against the turbulent and spectacular backdrop of the Highlands of Papua New Guinea, Joe Leahy, a mixed race highlander and wealthy coffee plantation owner, joins forces with the Ganiga tribe to expand his operations.

"With good prices you'll be up to your necks in money. With money you can do anything," Joe promises the 500 tribal members. His greatest ally is the Ganiga tribal leader Popina Mai, a superior warrior and orator, who wants to take his people into the modern world quickly.

"White man Joe has spoken and I, Popina support him. In money making and modern ways, Joe is our only leader," said Popina Mai. "I want to buy them (the tribal people) cars, build modern houses. I want us to be rich," he said. But a power struggle erupts.

Coffee-picking buckets, the work ethic and the promise of wealth are quickly abandoned for spears, bows and arrows, guns and chanting as inter-tribal warfare erupts on the eve of the crop harvest.

Film makers Bob Connolly and Robin Anderson and their baby daughter Katherine, spent two years making "*Black Harvest*", living in a small grass hut in the Ganiga territory in the highlands of Papua New Guinea. They risked their lives whilst filming during the torrid tribal warfare seen in the film.

Bob and Robin have been filming in Papua New Guinea for twelve years. Their other award winning films are "*First Contact*" (nominated for an Academy Award) released in 1983 and "*Joe Leahy's Neighbours*" released in 1989.

"*Black Harvest*" is now available to members from Film Australia for the special price of \$39.95 plus \$6.00 for freight and handling. All enquiries and orders should be directed to the Sales Department, Film Australia, PO Box 46, LINDFIELD, NSW, 2070. Tel. (02) 413 8777 Fax (02) 416 5672. (When ordering, members should state that they belong to our Association and Bankcard, Mastercard and Visa Card are acceptable)

### "THE KUTUBU DISCOVERY" - A book by Frank Rickwood, OBE.

When black oil flowed at Kutubu in 1986, it was the culmination of an exploration effort that had begun seventy years earlier.

Frank Rickwood tells the story of the search for oil in Papua New Guinea with an insider's knowledge. He describes the experiences of the early geological survey parties who travelled on foot into unmapped country and made contact with people who had, in some cases, never seen a European. He explains how geological information was painstakingly gathered, and theories were formulated to explain the tantalising shows of gas and oil.

The author's long association with Papua New Guinea enables him to describe the personalities and politics of the search for oil. The photographs, many from his own collection, provide a unique record of ways of life that have now vanished. He recounts the dramatic changes resulting from new technology, especially aerial surveys and helicopters, in the arduous task of exploring for oil. His personal account is set against the broad background of the formation of an independent nation.

The author's first-hand knowledge enables him to speak with authority about the people and the unique environment of Papua New Guinea as they face the challenges posed by commercial development of oil reserves.

The book contains a wealth of information about PNG in general and the search for oil in particular, costs \$45 and is available from Vortolo Pty Ltd, GPO Box 2442, SYDNEY NSW 2001. Bankcard, Mastercard and Visa are acceptable.

BOOK & VIDEO NEWS (continued)

KIAPS and the Law in Papua New Guinea

A video program is in production which looks at the legal roles of Patrol Officers (Kiaps) during the period of Australia's control over Papua New Guinea. It contains an interview with an Australian who served as a Patrol Officer in the Southern Highlands between 1965 and 1971. He discusses his training in both Australian law and customary law, the way white law was implemented, the co-existence of the two systems, and the lasting effects he observed. The interview is illustrated with photographs taken at the time.

The program is professionally produced on broadcast standard video, and will be available in the near future on all common formats. For further information contact: The Audio-Visual Unit, University of New South Wales, PO Box 1, KENSINGTON NSW.

TO FIND A PATH - Volume II - Keeping the Peace 1950-1975. The PNG Defence Force and the Australians, to Independence by James Sinclair.

Special Pre-publication Offer. For Service personnel only if ordered before 1 October. Date of publication: 15 December, 1992.

Volume II costs \$35 or \$45 posted. If you do not have the first volume, both Volumes I and II can be purchased together for the reduced price of \$70, plus postage \$15. Cheques payable to PIR History A/C addressed to:

"TO FIND A PATH"  
PO BOX 5849  
GOLD COAST QLD 4217

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PNG MEMORABILIA - A RESPONSE  
by Isobel Ireland

Peter Cahill's comments about memorabilia are exciting, I think. Many years ago I sent two pencil sketches to Canberra. They were gratefully received as I had bought them from an itinerant native artist, for nothing much as I remember, early in my stay up there. Now I realise I have two fish traps, one of which I would certainly give (both, I suppose, if coerced) to any institution that may be decided upon. It seems all this is just blowing in the wind at the moment but I do expect to see a great response to the suggestion. We always leave these things too late. My recent trip to Griffith made me realise how much I should have asked and learned before my family had gone beyond that. That makes me glad to see that we, the very favoured expatriates, are about to take action.

I am enclosing two letters I wrote to the South Pacific Post in 1968. They may not be of interest but who knows? They touch on local events in Port Moresby at that time.

Before I close, I don't remember (not unusual) ever giving any data for the archives, but would be willing to do so now. Is there to be an official format to simplify matters? A reply in the next newsletter will do.

(Isobel, your contributions will be forwarded to Peter Cahill and I will ask him about a report format. Also refer article page 10 of this issue. Ed)

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## A CRUISE BACK TO PNG

by Isobel Pert.

Left from Brisbane on the "Mikhail Sholokov" for an 18 day cruise back to PNG arranged by RSL - really enjoyed it. Great ship, nice crew and staff, lots of entertainment - no need to be bored.

Rabaul waterfront still beautiful. A nice friendly huge "BOONG" with massive amounts of some of the biggest, fattest beetlenuts I've ever seen. Noted the Highland influence in the bilums. They've got away from the natural string type and are now in all colours of the rainbow and of imported bright wool. I noted many of the big rare Eclectus Parrots for sale at K4 each. Later in Cairns at a sanctuary saw 1 pair and the lady assured me they were worth \$25,000 on the overseas market.

Madang was dry unfortunately and SE winds and rough seas have greatly eroded the waterfront on Kalibobo Drive and round to the Smugglers - in some places almost to the road. A lot of big rain trees have been cut down in and around the hospital grounds and they look bare. Angau Marine hill appears to have been flattened and all those interesting little dongas and wharves are gone.

The Lutheran Mission has extended south along the waterfront and I believe Madang Slipways is sold. The Coastwatchers Motel is greatly enlarged and now faces the main coast road. Sad in a way as it takes away the unique starkness of the lighthouse, which of course now has the motel as a back-drop. The BPs building on the wharf is still standing, gutted with fire and BPs store closed. Met Peter Barter at Madang Hotel - word has just come through he had won the Madang Electorate at the recent polls. The other local contestants far from happy. Hotel grounds lush and overgrown and new little accommodation cabins right on the waterfront. The Sepiks are still selling good authentic artefacts, particularly pottery.

Helen Schultz is hairdresser at the hotel. However, a high security fence and locked gate surrounds the complex. Also a lot of barred windows, fences, and some houses completely surrounded with upstanding corrugated iron - very ugly and very sad. Squatter houses and highlanders everywhere, specially up the north coast road. D1 and A1 Leong gave me a Cooks tour up past Huxleys - now a big posh hotel, again all fenced in. The plantations mostly overgrown and cocoa trees with vines entangled looked like little lumps under the coconut trees. One unique, seemingly Madang orientated "quirk" for the locals is to tie your rubber sneakers together with long laces, then attempt to throw them over and across the 2 power lines. If accurate enough, apparently it is an attempt to "black out the power" - extraordinary! I must have counted 60 pairs of various size shoes strung up in such fashion.

Saw Peter Hill and Dennis Garnham - the latter was attacked and stabbed by an intruder and still has not full use of his arm.

It rained all day in Lae and we were warned not to roam around town on our own, as elections had closed the previous day and general unrest was the norm with shop windows taped and doors closed. Susie and Chris Young came on board - nice to see them. Chris with Paradise Bakery.

Alotau was magnificent - the town surrounds so lush and green. Coming in through the Goschen Strait and leaving past Samarai - such unspoiled beauty. Did a bus tour here and the returned men did a lot of reminiscing at Henderson field, Gurneys etc. The locals very friendly like old times.

Moresby dry and greatly changed. We were tied at one wharf but had to move that night because 3 Japanese destroyers bristling with radar and helicopters etc wanted the position. Well, you should have heard the remarks from the returned Aussies next day. Moresby was teeming with Japanese sailors everywhere. I believe the Japanese have built a big hospital in Moresby and

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## A CRUISE BACK TO PNG (continued)

had a big party on board that night for Parliamentarians. Jehovah Witnesses have built 2 huge "kingdoms" reputedly worth \$5 million each. I took the Kokoda Track trip which took in beautiful Bomana War Cemetery where everyone found the graves of loved ones, and poppies and wreaths were laid - very moving. On to Kokoda - my main reason for the trip as Jack had fought there and it had always captured my imagination since in 1942 as a child I had recited "Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels" at a country school break-up concert. (The chaps got me to repeat this at McDonalds corner). A great day - enjoyed every minute, made more so by Thomas our "highlander, excellent driver, tour guide and owner of bus."

I must say here the trip was made more enjoyable by Sue and Ron Austin. Ron is a historian-author from Melbourne who spoke most mornings on war history and different angles of various ports we were in - then invited the returned me to give their comments and views. He smoothed out a lot of wrinkles with the trip.

Karen Cluskie (McLean) was sort of "customs-liaison" officer - met the ship in Rabaul and travelled with us. I renewed a lot of acquaintances. On board included Ira Halliday - always charming and good company, Ela Birrell who had folk meeting her in every port, Clyde Gane was there. Oldtimers will remember Coral (his mum) was with P & T in Lae just after the war - now in her 80s and lives at Lake Macquarie. Brian Marr, ex Madang, Peg Paxton and Margaret Von Muellen, AWAR. Lloyd, Lorraine and Kirsten Yelland with friends and a lot of memories around Alotau and Samarai, also Wal Spencer ex plantation manager Papuan Coast, Stevedore Samarai and later Produce Inspector DASF.

Forgot to mention the "bilakbokis" still hang/reside in the "yah" trees of Madang and as we sailed late in the afternoon hundreds took off right across the harbour and over the ship. I thought of Paul Gallico and *The Snow Goose*. Instead of the police boys blasting away at them with shot guns they are probably now a tourist attraction.

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## DELVE INTO THE PAST - FOR THE FUN OF IT!

by Geoff Baskett

I read a book recently which was written for budding authors. It told them how to write, edit, publish, sell and advertise their books and then to sit back and reap in the profits. The article commenced with the statement that anyone who said they had written a book for any reason, apart from the financial gain, was a liar!

I have now sold just over half the number of the one thousand copies of my autobiography, *"Islands and Mountains"*, (that's including those I have given away as gifts for donated to libraries) and, although I have not yet recouped the amount of money I spent on its production, I can honestly say that I have received so much enjoyment from readers' letters that the financial side does not really worry me.

(Being single, I do not have any family responsibilities money-wise, so any finances that are above my personal needs are used to sponsor the training of a nurse in the Philippines through World Vision, and also to help people's needs in third-world countries. Having recently spoken to friends who have been working with squatters living in shanties on a stinking rubbish dump outside Manila, and seeing photos of the incredible hardships they face, I believe that all of us who are better off than they are have a responsibility to help them financially where possible).

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DELVE INTO THE PAST - FOR THE FUN OF IT! (continued)

But the main reward I have gained from going through the process of writing and publishing my book has come from the very many letters I have received from readers who have thanked me for producing it. They have written saying the stories have rekindled many happy memories of their time spent in Papua New Guinea. They have written of the warmth of Papua New Guinean friends, and the beauty of the country. Flowers, scenery and friendships would be among most of their topics in their letters. Many say they wish it was only possible to return and relive their time in PNG again, but they realise that is impossible.

I recently received a letter from Mrs Pat Boys of New Zealand. She had heard of my book while visiting some ex-PNG friends in Brisbane and ordered a copy. In her letter of appreciation she forwarded some photos taken by her mother in 1931 of Kwato and Samarai, two years before I arrived at those places. She also enclosed a superb photo of one of the Bulolo gold dredges working at night with its brilliant arc lights reflecting on the waters of the "pond". I hadn't seen a photo like that before, and it certainly brought back memories of the months I had spent as a dredgehand at Bulwa. (Another reward for writing a book!) Pat Boys also mentioned mutual friends from PNG and said how she always lapped up any news of the country and people connected with it. Yes, she IS a member of ROAPNG!

So, as I said before, it is not everyone who writes a book solely for any financial gain! In fact, there is so much pleasure and goodwill generated by putting memories down on paper that I would recommend it to anyone who is feeling bored by retirement. As they put pen to paper, typewriter or computer to paper and start dwelling on the friendships, beauties and adventures of the past the more rewarding they will find those times to be. It's rather like looking through a treasured photograph album....

Although there may not be any plan to publish one's "jottings" once they are on paper, I feel sure the editor of *UNA VOCE* would welcome any material you could send him as a result of your wanting to share your memories with others.

Just delve into the past for the fun of it.... you'll never regret it!

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## PNG NEWS

### MADANG TUNA CANNERY

Cabinet has approved the draft agreement with the family companies of developer, Mr Lawrence Zuanich of Canada to construct a Tuna Cannery in the Madang Province. The Cannery estimated to cost about K25 million (A 34 million) will provide 1,400 jobs and training mainly for Papua New Guinea directly with the cannery.

There will be considerable spin-off benefits from the project for the Province and the country. Local contractors will be engaged in construction activities associated with the project. These will include housing, the value of local food, equipment purchases for the cannery and the fishing fleet will run into millions of kina a year. It was estimated with PNG's Electricity Commission will gain approximately K1.5 million (\$A 2,055) in revenue from the power to be used at the cannery. In addition to the jobs and training at the cannery, Papua New Guineans will have the opportunity to be trained and employed as seamen, and local traditional fishermen will be encouraged to catch tuna and other fish to sell to the cannery.

The cannery will be the eighth largest in the world, and will produce  
(continued next page)

## **PNG NEWS (continued)**

about 70,000 tonnes a year. It will produce canned tuna, canned mackerel as well as fish meal and pet food. Canned tuna will principally be for export to the EC and the USA, while the mackerel will mainly be for local consumption within PNG. It was estimated that the project will create export earnings of at least K65 million (\$A 89 million) for PNG and will reduce the country's import bill very considerably.

Under the agreement, Mr Zuanich's family companies will initially hold two thirds (2/3) of the shares while one-third (1/3) will be made available to the state or the Momase Provincial Governments, led by the Madang Provincial Government. The cannery operations will have reasonable fishing rights in the territorial seas and the area known as Mogardo square.

The Government through the Tuna Industry Development Committee, has offered a range of incentives consistent with the Government's policies to attract reasonable long-term international investment to the country. Formalisation of this agreement is being expedited in order that the cannery with huge economic potential can commence soon.

### **MT. KARE TO REOPEN**

The prospect of the Mt. Kare Alluvial Mining taking off looks very promising with the announcement by CRA that it would sell its 51 per cent stake in the project with Placer PNG, Highlands Gold and Renison Goldfields. CRA has 100 per cent licensing authority on Mt. Kare. The new scheme of partnership would mean CRA and its new partners will each take an equal 12.75 per cent with KDC retaining 49 per cent shareholding in the enterprise. The effect of the new partnership arrangement will reduce CRA's 51 per cent ownership of Mt. Kare to just 12.75 per cent.

### **STAFF CHANGES**

Mrs Legu Lee is now the new Trade Commissioner to Australia replacing Mr Longas Solomon who returned to Headquarters in December 1991. Mrs Lee is based in the Sydney office.

### **BRISBANE OFFICE**

The PNG Consul in Brisbane, Mr Thomas Polome, has thanked the Papua New Guinean Community in Queensland for their support to the Consulate in 1991. He also welcomed the newcomers among them, Mr Pitilial Pitil, the newly-appointed Education Attache and his family. Mr Pitil is an experienced educationalist having served previously as the Director the Administrative College in Port Moresby. He is accompanied by his wife Arlene, two sons and a daughter.

Mr Pitil's appointment will assist students studying in Australia at all levels to complete their courses successfully.

### **TRIBUTE TO THE LATE FR. JIM FRANKS**

Father Jim Franks (SVD), The General Manager of Word Publishing, died in Townsville on Monday 30 March 1992. Fr. Franks from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA was born on 11 January 1934. He was ordained a Catholic Priest in the Order of the Divine Word Missionaries on 2 April 1960 in Techy, USA and was assigned to Madang where he served most of his time as a parish priest in a number of parishes before joining the Word Publishing Company, first as the Editor of its Wantok Newspaper, and later as the General Manager of the Company until his death.

In his message of condolence the then Prime Minister, Mr Namaliu paid tribute to Fr. Frank for his commitment to Papua New Guinea and the great contribution he had made to the media, churches and general welfare in PNG.

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## **PNG NEWS (continued)**

The death of Fr. Franks is a tremendous loss for the Church, the media and for PNG as a whole. Fr. Franks worked and served in PNG for 27 years in which he gave PNG, the Christian church, and the media his total commitment willingly and generously. Today, Word Publishing and its remarkable achievements in localisation and training in particular, are a very real testimony to Fr. Franks' commitment to PNG and his great affection for our people, the Prime Minister said. The Prime Minister added that Fr. Frank's name will live on in the assumed and continuing success of Word Publishing and the ongoing achievements of Papua New Guineans who had the privilege of working with him.

### **THE NEW PNG HIGH COMMISSIONER**

The new Papua New Guinea High Commissioner to Australia, His Excellency Mr Morea T. Vele, arrived to take up his new post in April and is settling in well. Mr Vele is accompanied by his wife, Lol, and their three children, Daiiri, William and Tara.

High Commissioner Vele is an economist by profession, holding a Master of Arts degree in Economics (MA) from the University of Sussex (U.K.) in 1980, and a Bachelor of Economics degree with Honours [B.Ec.(Hons)] from the University of PNG in 1977.

### **SYDNEY OFFICE**

The former Consul (Administration) at the Sydney Office, Mr Joseph Konu, returned to Port Moresby on 22 April 1982 after completing his tour of duty. Mr Konu has taken up his new post as Director of Finance in the Department of Foreign Affairs in Port Moresby. Mr Konu has been replaced by Ms Perpetua Haiveta from the Gulf Province, who arrived on 5th April, 1992.

### **Education News**

One of the main functions of Papua New Guinea's new Education Attache, Mr Patilial Pitil to Australia is to take charge of the special Education and training scheme established between Papua New Guinea and Australia.

The Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB)-run scheme in particular is a very significant aspect of Mr Pitil's activities. The Papua New Guinea Secondary School's AIDAB funded project has been in operation since 1990. This year (1992) a total of 420 students were enrolled in 34 High Schools in Queensland, Northern Territory and New South Wales (Armidale area).

Apart from the AIDAB funded scholars, there are other PNG High School students who are studying in Australia under private scholarships.

A recent visit by PNG Education Officials to Australia found that morale of PNG students in Australia is very high and reports about their academic and social conducts are very encouraging. Records on hand show that there are well over 1000 students studying in Queensland alone. Approximately 150 students studying under AIDAB Scholarships and over 300 studying under AIDAB sponsorship. There are also records showing very 300 privately sponsored students in schools and colleges throughout Australia. AIDAB's total students statistics stands and 420 in Secondary schools and 344 in Tertiary institutions.

### **CONSULTATIVE GROUP PLEDGES US\$545M FOR PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

The fifth meeting of the Consultative Group for Papua New Guinea has resulted in the Group pledging a total of US\$545M in development assistance to Papua New Guinea. The meeting, held annually, was convened in Singapore from 27-28 April, 1992 and was attended by representatives of the Governments of Australia, Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand and the

*(continued next page)*

**PNG NEWS (continued)**

United States. The Papua New Guinea delegation was led by the Minister for Finance and Planning, Hon. Paul Pora. A number of significant aspects of PNG's overall development in terms of its economy were discussed in the World Bank chaired meeting.

The Group noted and congratulated Papua New Guinea on emerging from a successful stabilisation program following severe economic setbacks in 1989-90 with the closure of the Bougainville Copper Mine and steep falls in prices of its major tree-crop export commodities.

Delegates from the Asian Development Bank, the Commission of European Communities, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Development Program and the World Bank also attended the meeting.

The delegates noted the important progress made by Papua New Guinea on structural economic reforms since 1989 and the important steps taken to promote the private non-mining sector.

The Papua New Guinea delegation expressed their satisfaction with the favourable response of donors by the level of assistance offered. This amount of US\$545 million will assist the policy framework and strategic sectoral expenditure plans outlined by the Consultative Group.

The Consultative Group also endorsed the principles set by the Papua New Guinea Government to guide its development strategy and the programs implementation of its development. These principles include the following:

- (i) maintenance of macro-economic stability;
- (ii) enhancement of the international competitiveness of the non-mining sector; and
- (iii) strengthening of the Government's capacity to implement development programs.

**OFFICE OF SECURITY CO-ORDINATION**

An Office of Security Co-ordination and Assessment (OSCA) has been established as part of the National Government's medium and long-term plans to combat law and order problems currently being experienced in the country. The establishment of the Office is the direct result of a comprehensive review of Papua New Guinea's internal security structures following a Prime Ministerial discussion between the then Prime Minister Namaliu and the former Australian Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, in 1989. A further commitment to provide assistance was made by both Mr Namaliu and Prime Minister Keating last April in Port Moresby.

The main objective of the Office is to improve coordination and cooperation between the various law enforcement and security agencies in PNG with a view to better implementing decisions in relation to law and order. OSCA comes under the Office of the Prime Minister and is staffed by officers from the three disciplined forces - Police, Defence and Correctional Services.

(The foregoing are extracts taken from the March, April and May 1992 issues of the PNG NEWSLETTER which, unfortunately, we did not receive until after the June 1992 issue of our Newsletter had gone to print. Ed.)

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## VALE

*With deep regret we record the passing of the following members and friends. On behalf of the Association the Committee extends our deepest sympathy to their families.*

Mr. William Leslie TEBB (16 July 92, aged 73 years)

Bill Tebb was born on 3rd May 1919, the son of a soldier then serving in the Royal Horse Artillery at its base in Woolwich, London. At the age of 14, the earliest at which he could enlist in any of the Services, Bill joined the Royal Marines as a Band Boy, but, finding that this was not really his cup of tea, he managed to transfer to the Royal Navy as a Boy Seaman in August 1935. He trained at HMS St. Vincent, the Boys' Training Establishment in Gosport, Hampshire, and passed out with flying colours in 1936 to serve in the cruisers HMS DELHI and DEVONSHIRE during the Abyssinian and Palestinian crises, subsequently being awarded the Naval General Service Medal with Palestine clasp.

January 1940 found Bill serving as an Able Seaman in the Armed Merchant Cruiser CORINTHIA which was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine off the coast of Ireland in June of that year. Bill survived the sinking and in 1941 joined the RN Submarine Service, spending some time in HMS/M L23 before volunteering and being accepted for Special Service duties.

The particular Special Service that he found himself involved with was the operation of chariots, or what are known to the general public as human torpedoes. He received intensive training in the cold waters of Scottish lochs and eventually in October 1942 was selected as one of the ten charioteers to make a proposed attack on the German battleship TIRPITZ which, at the time, was moored in Trondheimsfjord in Norway.

Unexpectedly bad weather forced the abortion of the attack and the fishing vessel in which the chariots and crews had been embarked had to be abandoned and sunk in the fiord almost within sight of their target. The party was split into two groups and both made their way on foot across Norway into Sweden, on the way losing one member shot and killed by the Gestapo.

As a result of this action, the full story of which would fill two or three chapters of a book, Bill was Mentioned in Despatches and, following repatriation from Sweden, was seconded to Combined Operations Pilotage Party diving work which involved surveying and marking enemy beaches in Sicily and France prior to the Allied invasions in 1943 and 1944. Later he was employed as a Diver in Mine Clearance work and after the war was called on on several occasions as a witness at the Nuremberg war criminal trials.

Bill retired from the RN in May 1949 and took passage to Australia in RMS ORONTES in 1950. He took up employment as a pearl diver and then as Mate of the MV CRYSTAL STAR before joining the Commonwealth Public Service, initially as a diver and then as a Barge Master operating a ferry service between Lae and Labu.

His next appointment took him to Thursday Island on board a pearling lugger before joining the CSIRO survey schooner PAXIE as its Mate and carrying out diving surveys in the Timor Sea, Torres Strait and southern Papuan waters.

Having obtained his Coastal Master's ticket in 1952 and his Coastal Engineer's ticket in 1959 Bill's final 15 years in Government service was spent in command of trawlers operating out of Rabaul, Wewak and Manus Island. He and his wife, Lois, were married in 1967 in Wewak by District Commissioner, Ted Hicks. He was a Foundation Member of Sepik Lodge of

*(continued next page)*

Freemasons and he eventually retired in May 1974 at the age of 55 years to live in Terrigal.

Bill was a member of the Submarines Association in Sydney and his passing is a sad loss to his fellow members. The following words written by his wartime commander, Captain Fell, RN, will give some idea of the extremely high esteem in which he was held by his fellow men and should serve as his Epitaph.

"He took part in several most hazardous operations with outstanding gallantry and success. He was easily trained, quite fearless and adept at underwater work. His conduct was excellent and he was a man in whose hands I would gladly trust my life."

Bill met death in the same way that he met life and will be remembered as a truly remarkable and courageous man. He is survived by his widow, Lois, daughter Ingrid and son Nigel.

(The foregoing is a substantial extract of the Eulogy delivered by Bill's ex-Navy friend, Gordon Selby, at the funeral. Ed.)

Mr. Patrick Harold CLARKE (9 July 92, aged 84 years)

Pat and his family lived in Port Moresby for 14 years from 1948 to 1962. Before then, Pat had been with the Qld Department of Forests in Brisbane and Yarraman. His first appointment in PNG was with the Department of Forests where he spent 7 years. During that time he was on many committees and boards concerned with the development of the Territory and was also the acting Territory Director of the Department for 12 months. In 1955 he moved to the Public Service Commission where he was Public Service Inspector. While there he appointed the first indigenous officers to the Territory's Public Service. He became the Chairman of the PNG Promotions Appeals Board and during that period he returned to Australia for 21 months to undertake a major recruitment of Australians from all walks of life for the PNG Public Service under the then Minister, Sir Paul Hasluck.

Pat was also successful as the Advocate before the Arbitration Court for the introduction of the 5 day working week in the Territory on behalf of the Public Service Association.

Throughout his career in the Territory, Pat served the Government with distinction and could justifiably take pride in his achievements as a senior public servant of the Territory.

Pat is survived by his wife, Eileen and children, Kevin and Patricia, and a number of grandchildren.

Mrs. Aileen Lucy BRAZIER (28 July 92, aged 89 years)

Aileen was the widow of Bruce Wilson (Bill) Brazier who was with the Treasury Department in PNG for many years. They lived in many parts of PNG including Kieta, Kokopo, Rabaul, Kavieng, Wau and Port Moresby between the years 1927 and 1961. Son Bruce wrote "Your newsletter was much appreciated by my mother. In her later years it gave her a link to her past which, as she became less able to move about, she valued greatly."

Thank you, Bruce, it is very rewarding to us to feel that we are doing something really worthwhile for ex-PNG folk, particularly for people like your mother and father who gave so much to PNG over a long period and must have experienced so many changes over the years.

Aileen is survived by son, Bruce and daughter, Margaret.

Mr. Herbert Percy (Bill) SEALE OBE (16 August 92, aged 82 years)

Bill died at Mosman on Sunday 16 August after a long and debilitating illness and a Memorial Service was held the following Thursday at St. Clements Anglican Church at Mosman. The Service was very well attended, some people coming long distances to be present.

After a brief opening prayer and hymn, Mr Les Williams, one of Bill's oldest friends, was asked to deliver the eulogy. He said in opening that he approached his few words with mixed feelings - sadness at the passing of a mate of more than fifty years standing, but relief that Bill and his family had come to the end of a road which had become rough and demanding as his condition deteriorated.

Les first met Bill at Salamaua in 1939-40 when Bill was a Customs Officer. They first met on the cricket field where Les faced a barrage of bowling from a man he later learned played Grade Cricket in Sydney before going to the Territory. This experience caused Les to "sprain an ankle" on every later occasion when he was invited to play against Bill.

They served in different parts of the Territory during the War years and did not meet again until 1947 when Bill was senior Clerk at Kavieng and Les was ADO at Namatani. It was at about this time that Bill applied for and was granted transfer to the field staff. They next met at Wau in the early 'fifties where Bill was ADO and Les visited on short local leave from Goroka. They played golf together during this short period. Bill had as caddy a Kuku Kuku teenager who responded to Bill's request for a No. 6 iron by suggesting that a shorter club, a No. 7, would be more appropriate. After a couple of short exchanges Bill was given the club he had asked for and promptly hit the ball twenty yards through the green. The caddy was heard to say "Em nau" as they moved down the fairway.

Bill's work in the field was characterised by the tremendous energy with which he approached any problem. He believed that any job worth doing was worth doing well and demanded of his staff the same approach from them. Any deficiency in this regard was quickly noted and usually attracted a two-word reprimand which reflected on his target's energy output or intelligence and made reference to his probable parentage.

Bill's work in general Administration and in Legco was recognised when he was awarded the Order of the British Empire, an award which was applauded by his family and scores of friends and admirers. Les concluded his remarks by regretting that a suitable medal had not been struck acknowledging the unfailing and undiminished devotion and support given to Bill by Heather and his family.

After his retirement in 1971 Bill became a member and great supporter of our Association and, whilst President from January 1975 until April 1985, devoted a great deal of time and effort in furthering the interests of our organisation. Since 1985 the Association has been honoured in having Bill as one of our Patrons. Bill is survived by his widow Heather, son, John and daughter, Margaret and their families.

Mr. William John Absolom (Jack) READ (29 June 92, aged 86 years)

Jack went to PNG on the S.S. Montoro in June 1929 and pre-war served in New Britain, Madang and Bougainville. For his war service refer to the article elsewhere in this issue titled "Jack Read - Coastwatcher".

Post-war Jack was District Officer, Bougainville then District Commissioner, New Ireland until he retired to Melbourne at the end of 1950. He then served in the Navy Office in Melbourne until October, 1950 when he returned to Rabaul as a Native Land Commissioner and served there and in New Ireland until he finally retired to Dandenong in Victoria in December 1976. He is survived by his daughter Judy Fairhurst of Ballarat, Victoria.

Mr. Robert Michael (Bob) GEELAN (26 July 92, aged 70 years)

After service in the Army, Bob joined the Provisional Administration of PNG as a Patrol Officer and in 1946 he was patrolling in the area around Ioma and Higaturu and probably at Kairuku. The following year Bob was in the Delta Division stationed at Kikori with Mike Healy as his District Officer. Ian Holmes and Phil Robb were the other Patrol Officers and Jim Rudge was the Medical Assistant.

Bob's patrol into the Samberigi Valley in August '47 was of great interest to him and he then spent some time at Daru.

He married his wife, Della, in 1948 and was ADO Abau until he came south to spend a year at ASOPA.

On Bob's return to Papua he was posted to Bwagaia on Missima, in time to be flattened by the cyclone that swept that area in May, 1952. Dr. Gunther and Alan Champion, DO Samarai, came on the trawler 'Managunu' to inspect the damage and commented that it was like the outskirts of Mount Lamington'.

His last posting was to Losuia in the Trobriand Islands and from there he returned to Australia in 1956.

In the '70s Bob gained an Unrestricted Private Pilot's Licence and in the '80s the Instrument Ratings: Night VFR, Class One, Command and Class Three. As those who knew him will remember, flying and aeroplanes were his passion. He will also be remembered for his stock of 'tall' tales.

Bob is survived by his widow, Della and children Keryn, Scott and Craig.

Mr. John MILES (3 July 92, aged 67 years)

John died at the Sacred Heart Hospice in Darlinghurst after battling a brain tumour for 18 months.

The UN Secretary-General, Mr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a telegram to the family, said he had brought "the highest standards of professionalism and integrity" to a long and distinguished career.

John was born in Dalyston, Victoria, on September 4, 1924. He was Dux at Trinity Grammar and graduated from the University of Melbourne with First Class Honours in History in 1944.

From 1945 to 1947 he was a Japanese interpreter for the Australian forces in Japan. Later, he studied again in Melbourne, then lectured at the Australian School of Pacific Administration in Sydney until 1958.

His 32-year UN career began late that year and included posts in the Department of Trusteeship and Non-Governing Territories, the Trusteeship Council, the Special Committee of 24 and the Fourth Committee (Decolonization Matters) of the General Assembly. He served on many UN missions.

From 1974 to 1978 he held senior UN advisory posts in the Middle East and, on Middle East affairs, at UN headquarters. In 1978 he joined the UN Relief Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) as director of its liaison office in New York.

John's first marriage, to Audrey Gibbins in 1951, produced five children. He married Margaret Lackey of Manhattan in 1976.

He is survived by his widow, Margaret and his children, Deborah Birnbaum, Philip Miles and Andrew Miles, of Sydney, and Catherine Jesiolowski and Gregory Miles, of Coffs Harbour.

Mr. Ian WILLIAMS (20 August 92, aged 55 years)

Ian spent some time in PNG with the Public Works Department in Bogia and Madang and lived at North Arm Qld. He is survived by his widow, Delia and three young children. (No further information was available)

Mr. Kenneth Clarence (Bill) FLORENTINE (19 April 92, aged 79 years)

(Reported briefly in last issue of Newsletter)

Bill served in the A.I.F. for six years and after his discharge worked for C.R.T.S. in Sydney before going to Port Moresby to work for Steamships Shipping Department, which was then controlled by the Directorate of Shipping.

He joined the Department of Treasury in July 1948 and was later transferred to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs where he worked as Senior Finance Officer until his retirement in September 1970 to settle in Brisbane. He died on 19 April at Greenslopes Repatriation Hospital after a long illness.

Bill is survived by his widow Enid (Pat) and daughter Susan Power and her family of Illawong, Sydney.

Mr. Jack DUNBAR-REID (28 June 92, aged 78 years)

Survived by sons, Don, Dick and Ian and daughter Dawn. (A full report will be included in the next issue of the Newsletter. Ed.)

Mr. Desmond CLIFTON-BASSET (27 September 92, aged 70 years)

Survived by widow, Marie and children. (News only received as we were going to print and full report will be included in the next issue of the Newsletter. Ed.)

## PNG CABINET

The Hon. Paias Wingti, MP

Prime Minister

The Right Hon. Sir Julius Chan, KBE, MP.

Deputy Prime Minister

and Minister for Finance &

### Planning

Hon. John Nilkare, MP

Minister for Provincial Affairs and  
Village Development

Hon. Albert Karo, MP

Minister for Works

Hon. Roy Yaki, MP

Minister for Transport

Hon. Iairo Lasaro, MP

Minister for Fisheries

Hon. Albert Kipalan, MP

Minister for Public Services

Hon. Tim Ward, MP

Minister for Lands

Hon. John Kaputin, MP

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Hon. Masket Iangallo, MP

Minister for Mining and Petroleum

Hon. Tim Neville, MP

Minister for Forests

Hon. Michael Ogio, MP

Minister for State Responsible for

Bougainville

Hon. Philemon Embel, MP

Minister for Justice

Hon. Roy Evara, MP

Minister for Agriculture

Hon. Perry Zeipe, MP

Minister for Environment and Conservation

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Minister for Housing

Hon. John Kamp, MP

Minister for Corrective Institution Services

(continued next page)

**PNG CABINET (continued)**

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**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:**

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We still have the problem of insufficient space and some of the articles which I had hoped to include this time I have had to hold over until the December issue. I do hope, however, to catch up fully with the backlog in that issue.

To all those who are sick or in ill-health, I sincerely hope that you are all well on the road to recovery.

Take care and look after yourselves. Sincerely,

*Doug Parrish*

Doug Parrish, Editor.

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